

I am writing to protest the airing of "Stolen Honor", an anti-Kerry documentary, by Sinclair Broadcasting in prime time days before the election. This is not a balanced news program. This is a bias program amounting to an hour long Swift Boat Veteran Ad disguised as a documentary with airtime donated by Sinclair Broadcasting. At the very least the stations airing this ad should be required to show a pro-Kerry program such as "Going Upriver" in prime-time before the election.

Sinclair is using our public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Using our airwaves to support his political views does not serve our democracy. But, when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

In the last few years I have been disheartened by how the consolidation of the media and the increased focus on profit/marketing driven news programming has drastically lower the quality of the news the American people have access to. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.

Sincerely
Michele Riddel
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